

deoxythymidines and at least 2 independently selected non-deoxythymidine nucleotides near one end; and

reverse transcribing the mRNA using a reverse transcriptase to produce a DNA strand complementary to the mRNA.

19/2. The method of claim 1, wherein each primer further comprises a restriction enzyme sequence near the end opposite to the one containing the non-deoxythymidine nucleotides.

20/3. The method of claim 2, wherein the restriction enzyme sequence is double stranded.

21/4. The method of claim 1, wherein each primer comprises at least 10 contiguous deoxythymidines.

22/5. The method of claim 1, wherein each primer comprises at least 15 contiguous deoxythymidines.

23/6. The method of claim 1, wherein each primer comprises 2, 3, 4, or 5 non-deoxythymidine nucleotides at one end.

24/7. The method of claim 6, wherein the non-deoxythymidine nucleotides is selected from the group consisting of 3'-VV, 3'-VTV, 3'-VTVV, 3'-VTVVV, 3'-VTVVTV, 3'-VTTV, 3'-VTTTV, 3'-VTTTVV, and 3'-VVVVV and combinations thereof, wherein V is deoxyadenosine, deoxycytidine, or deoxyguanosine.

25/8. The method of claim 1, wherein the mixture comprises about 10-25 % of a primer having a 3'-VV, about 0.5-10 % of a primer having a 3'-VTV, about 0.1-5 % of a primer having a 3'-VTTV, about 0.001-0.5% of a primer having a 3'-VTTTV, and upto about 95 % of a primer having a 3'-VVVVV, wherein V is deoxyadenosine, deoxycytidine, or deoxyguanosine.

26/9. The method of claim 8, wherein the mixture comprises about 15-20 % of a primer having a 3'-VV, about 3-6 % of a primer having a 3'-VTV, about 0.5-3 % of a primer having a 3'-VTTV, about 0.005-0.05% of a primer having a 3'-VTTTV, and about 60-80 % of a primer having a 3'-

VVVVV, wherein V is deoxyadenosine, deoxycytidine, or deoxyguanosine.

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10. A method for obtaining a DNA complementary to a mRNA, the method comprising:

contacting the mRNA having a polyA tail with a primer mixture comprising a plurality of primers wherein each primer comprises at least 10 contiguous deoxythymidines and a non-polyA-complementary region near one end, wherein the non-polyA-complementary region is selected from the group consisting of 3'-VV, 3'-VTV, 3'-VTVV, 3'-VTVVV, 3'-VTVVTV, 3'-VTTV, 3'-VTTTV, 3'-VVTVVV, and 3'-VVVVV, and combinations thereof, wherein V is deoxyadenosine, deoxycytidine, or deoxyguanosine; and

reverse transcribing the mRNA using a reverse transcriptase to produce a DNA strand complementary to the mRNA.

204040-068601

REMARKS UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Formal Matters

Claims 1-10 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth herein.

Claims 11-17 are canceled without prejudice to renewal.

Please replace claims 1-10 with the clean version provided above.

The specification is amended to claim the benefit of prior U.S. patent application serial no.

09/549,770, filed April 14, 2000, now pending.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached is captioned "**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.**"

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and remarks made herein.

No new matter has been added.

Conclusion

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number 065414089DIV.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: January 4, 2002

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